

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA**

DOREEN RUPERT,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	Case No. <u>CIV-22-419-JD</u>
)	
v.)	COMPLAINT
)	(Unlawful Debt Collection Practices)
THE BUREAUS, INC.,)	
)	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
Defendant.)	

COMPLAINT

NOW COMES Plaintiff, Doreen Rupert, and her Complaint against Defendant, The Bureaus, Inc., alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiff states a claim against The Bureaus, Inc., for violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, codified 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. (hereinafter “FDCPA”), which was enacted in 1978.

2. Congress stated its findings and purposes of the FDCPA:

(a) Abusive practices

There is *abundant evidence* of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors. Abusive debt collection practices contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasion of individual privacy.

(b) Inadequacy of laws

Existing laws and procedures for redressing these injuries are inadequate to protect consumers.

(c) Available non-abusive collection methods

Means other than misrepresentation or other abusive debt collection practices are available for the effective collection of debts.

(d) Interstate Commerce

Abusive debt collection practices are carried on to a substantial extent in interstate commerce and through means and instrumentalities of such commerce. Even where abusive debt collection practices are purely intrastate in character, they nevertheless directly affect interstate commerce.

(e) Purposes

It is the purpose of this title to *eliminate* abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to ensure that those debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. Jurisdiction of his court arises pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1692k(d), which states that such actions may be brought and heard before “any appropriate United States district court without regard to the amount in controversy.

4. Defendant conducted business in the state of Oklahoma; therefore, personal jurisdiction is established.

5. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1391(b)(2).

PARTIES

6. Plaintiff is a natural person who resides in Oklahoma, County of Oklahoma.

7. Plaintiff is a consumer as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(5).

8. Defendant is a debt collector as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. 1692a(6), and sought to collect a consumer debt from Plaintiff.

9. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendant, is a collections business with an office in Northbrook, Illinois.

10. Upon information and belief, Defendant used interstate mail and made telephone calls to consumers attempting to collect on defaulted consumer debt.

11. Defendant acted through its agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

12. Defendant sent correspondence to Plaintiff seeking and demanding payment for a debt purportedly originated with Citi Bank N.A. for a defaulted, consumer debt.

13. On March 2, 2021, Plaintiff recorded a telephonic conversation between Plaintiff and Defendant. On this phone call, Plaintiff clearly disputed the debt.

14. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(8), after the Plaintiff disputed the debt the Defendant failed to communicate to credit bureaus that the disputed debt in question was disputed by Plaintiff.

15. Plaintiff has suffered actual damages as a result of these failures to report the disputed debt by this Defendant in the form of anger, anxiety, frustration, amongst other negative emotions, as well as suffering damage to her credit score.

COUNT I
DEFENDANTS VIOLATED THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES
ACT,
(FDCPA), 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq.

16. Defendants violated § 1692e(8) of the FDCPA by failing to communicate that a dispute debt is disputed.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Doreen Rupert, respectfully prays that judgment be entered against Defendant, The Bureaus, Inc., for the following:

- a) Statutory damages of \$1,000.00, pursuant to the FDCPA, 15, U.S.C. 1692k;
 - b) Actual damages pursuant to the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. 1692k;
 - c) Costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. 1692k;
- and
- d) Any other relief that this court deems to be just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

RIGGS, ABNEY, NEAL, TURPEN,
ORBISON & LEWIS P.C.

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